GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1046
ANSWERED ON:20.08.2007
NORMS FOR TELEPHONE CONNECTIONS
Gadakh Shri Tukaram Gangadhar;Narhire Smt. Kalpana Ramesh

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the definition of urban areas and rural areas for giving telephone connections and charging bills ;

(b) whether Ahmednagar and Osmanabad in Maharashtra can be treated as rural areas to encourage more people to take telephone connections; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD)

(a) Sir, BSNL does not have its own criteria for classification of areas as rural or urban and it merely adopts the classification made in the Census Report. An area which is classified as rural in the Census Report 2001 is treated as rural for the purpose of fixing rural tariff by BSNL. All other areas which are not classified as rural in the Census Report 2001 are treated as urban for this purpose.

(b) As per Census Report 2001, both Ahmednagar and Osmanabad in Maharashtra are classified as urban. As such these areas can not be treated as rural for the purpose of charging telephone tariff by BSNL.

(c)Does not arise in view of (b) above.